‘IT’S ABOUT FEELING CONFIDENT’

ALEXA CHUNG OFFERS HER TAKE ON SEX APPEAL. PAGE 19

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Steamboat Springs gets high marks

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PAGE 20

‘A changing paradigm.’ District Attorney Seth Williams said this term, he wants to focus more on violent crime and less on nonviolent offenders. **Metro exclusive.** We sit down with the newly inaugurated DA and talk about this plans for his second term, which officially started this week. PAGE 02

Striding into a second term

Seth Williams became Pennsylvania’s first black district attorney when he was elected four years ago. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

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What's trending at Metro.us

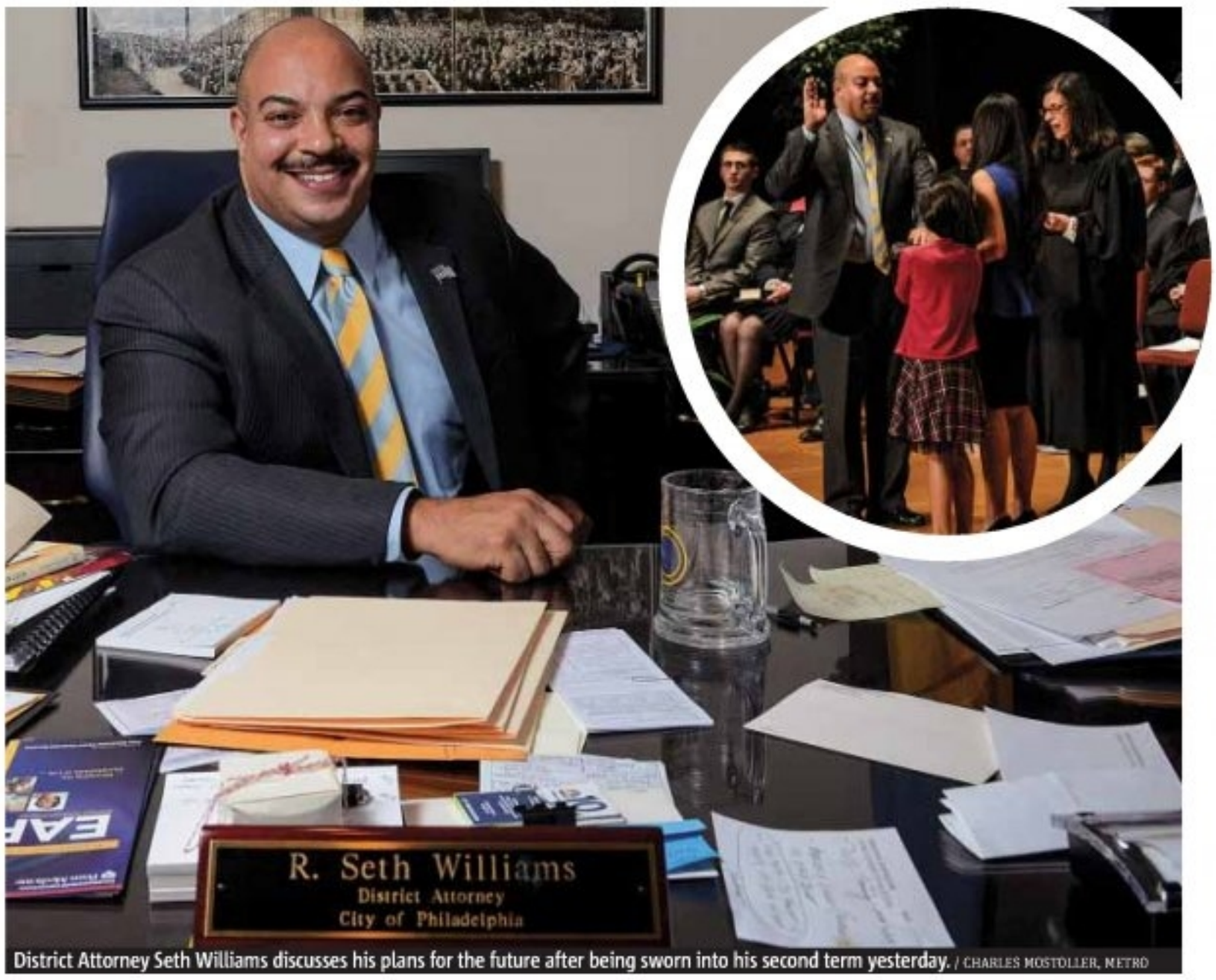
1 'The new trailer for season 2 of "House of Cards" is pretty dramatic'

2 'VIDEO: NBC debuts first promo video for "Late Night with Seth Meyers"'

3 'What Paris Hilton thinks of Kim Kardashian's parenting skills'

Turning the tides on violent crime in Philly

A safer city. Despite Philadelphia's wild reputation, it actually got a lot safer during District Attorney Williams' first term.



District Attorney Seth Williams discusses his plans for the future after being sworn into his second term yesterday. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

District Attorney Seth Williams has two cell phones — one of which just receives a steady stream of alerts about shootings, robberies and other crimes around Philadelphia — so that he always knows what's going on around the city.

But at the same time, as a native of West Philadelphia, he also experienced what it was like to be a victim of crime growing up — whether it was having his father's '63 Impala Super Sport stolen, people firing guns near the house or fresh flowers taken from the garden.

Williams on Monday was sworn in for his second term as Philadelphia district attorney at an inauguration ceremony where he pledged to continue pursuing programs that have made the city safer. It's all part of what Williams called "a changing paradigm" in criminal prosecution — which calls for focusing more resources on violent crime and less on non-violent criminals.

About 43 percent of the misdemeanor cases the office sees are processed by Williams' court-diversion programs.

"To me, it made sense as a manager," Williams said. "We were spending thousands of dollars on someone who possessed about $10 worth of weed."

Williams also developed Focused Deterrence, a program that engages young people with criminal records and asks them to stop each other from committing violent acts.

"It's more powerful for one of their guys to say, 'Yo, don't screw up, don't use the gun,'" Williams said.

Another issue Williams plans to engage with more fully is school truancy — not for kids who skip school sometimes, but in cases with "parents who keep their kids at home."

"The last and final resort would be to prosecute parents ... for endangering the welfare of a child," Williams said.

But the District Attorney's Office is working against the tide of shrinking public budgets.

"Our office is woefully underfunded," Williams said. "That's across the board though. Philadelphia needs to invest in law enforcement."

As the first African-American district attorney in Pennsylvania, Williams knows that his tenure in office is important to many Philadelphians.

"For generations, people who were black and brown felt as though the criminal justice system wasn't fair," he said.

But it isn't all about being first.

"There are other numbers that are more important," Williams said. "We had 249 homicides last year, 80 percent of them by handgun, and most of them were black and brown men. ... How do we change that?"

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New paradigm

Williams looks everywhere for new ideas he can adapt.

- Boston ("Focused Deterrence" program)
- New York (mandatory prison time for unlicensed carrying of a gun, legislation still pending)
- St. Louis (GunStat, which identifies serious gun offenders)

He also does research. Some recent reads include:

- "The Changing Role of the American Prosecutor," edited by John L. Worrall and M. Elaine Nugent-Borakove
- "Smart on Crime" by Kamala Harris

Quoted

"It could be because they're protecting a stash of drugs, it could be because somebody called somebody's girlfriend ugly. We don't care why. If anyone in your group uses a gun, we're going to come down on all of you."

Williams
Describing "Focused Deterrence"

By the numbers

81%
Felony conviction rate

59%
Felony dismissal rate in 2008

43%
Misdemeanor cases resolved through diversionary programs without jail time

285
Prosecutors working in the city

600
Employees at the DA's office

249
The number of homicides in Philadelphia in 2013

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No life sentence.
Jihad Jane gets 10 years in plot to kill

The Montgomery County woman who calls herself Jihad Jane was on Monday sentenced to 10 years in prison for a failed al Qaeda-linked plot to kill a Swedish artist who had depicted the head of the Muslim Prophet Mohammad on a dog.

Colleen R. LaRose, 50, who converted to Islam online and has maintained her faith, was given credit for the four years she has already served. She pleaded guilty to following orders in 2009 from alleged al Qaeda operatives.

LaRose, who could have received a life sentence, has given authorities significant help in other terrorism cases since her 2009 arrest, prosecutors said.

LaRose, who used the name Jihad Jane as she became involved in the Muslim online community, traveled to Europe in 2009 intending to participate in a militant plot to shoot artist Lars Vilks in the chest six times.

Colleen LaRose / FILE PHOTO

Quoted

"I was in a trance and I couldn't see anything else."

LaRose apologized at Monday's hearing for blindly following instructions of her handlers.

But LaRose became impatient with the men who lured her to Europe and she gave up after six weeks and returned to Philadelphia, where she was arrested. **REUTERS**

The life of Jihad Jane

Defense lawyer Mark Wilson said her plot was "more aspirational than operational."

- He had described LaRose as lonely and vulnerable.
- LaRose's father repeatedly raped her from about age 7 to 13, according to court documents.

West Philadelphia

Armed robbers beat Chinese take-out shop owners

Two men beat and robbed two Chinese take-out shop owners in West Philadelphia early Monday morning.

The armed robbery happened about 1 a.m. at Hualai Chinese Restaurant at 5148 W. Walnut St., reports say. The husband and wife were beaten inside their restaurant, and the wife reportedly was pistol-whipped by a suspect.

The armed suspect scoped out the inside of the restaurant as the other waited outside as a lookout. When the male owner returned to the restaurant from a delivery and opened an enclosed area, the armed suspect repeatedly punched him in the face before pistol-whipping the female victim. The robbers fled the store with about $500, according to the report. The victims were treated at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. **METRO**

The fiscal watchdog gets sworn in

City Controller Alan L. Butkovitz takes the oath of office at Monday's inauguration that also included Philadelphia's district attorney and 22 municipal court and court of common pleas judges. In his inauguration speech on Monday, he addressed a plan that would harness the economic power of local institutions like the University of Pennsylvania and the school district. Several institutions export more than $2 billion in goods and services yearly. Butkovitz is hoping these local entities shift some purchases to Philadelphia. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Northeast

Man says he 'accidentally' shot girlfriend

A 36-year-old man was arrested early Sunday for "accidentally" shooting his girlfriend, police said.

Roger Morrison, of the 1400 block of Unity Street, met police, who were responding to a call for a shooting inside a residence, outside his home around 3:30 a.m.

He immediately told police that he "accidentally" shot his girlfriend.

Police found the woman, 26, in bed with a gunshot wound to the forehead. The woman is being treated at Einstein Hospital. She was in extremely critical condition at press time.

Morrison was charged with attempted murder and related offenses. **METRO**

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Man, dog, die in Upper Darby hit-and-run

Move along. Upper Darby police said motorists drove around the man's lifeless body.

A 69-year-old Upper Darby man and his dog were killed in a hit-and-run Sunday, and police said motorists drove around his lifeless body.

Richard Patterson's dog, Babby, ran away. He found the white poodle around 4:30 p.m., and then started walking home, according to Police Superintendent Michael Chitwood. While he crossed Providence Road at Arbor Lea Road around 5 p.m., an older model, light-colored sedan flew up Providence and knocked Babby 40 feet.

Quoted

"It's just a shame. Somebody could have at least stopped and helped."

Chitwood

Chitwood said Patterson was thrown about 50 feet, and his sneakers were knocked off his feet.

According to witnesses who called 911, cars completely avoided Patterson as he lay in the street, "if not dying getting ready to die," Chitwood said.

Chitwood said he can "guarantee" the driver was "high, or drunk."

"Whoever did this, man or woman, is a true scumbag," he said.

Chitwood said Patterson, a retiree who lived in town for close to 50 years with his wife, was known to walk through town with his dog.

Police are evaluating surveillance video to determine the make and model of the vehicle.

Chitwood said he always makes a point to meet with the families of the deceased.

"I told them I promise we'll try everything, but can't promise we'll bring him in," he said.

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Overbrook

Two dead, one injured

Two 24-year-old men were killed and a 22-year-old man was injured after a gunfight erupted Sunday night in Overbrook, police said. The shooting occurred around 8 p.m. on the 6200 block of Media Street.

One man was found with bullet wounds to the head and torso, while the second victim had been shot in his chest, police said. The 22-year-old man was hospitalized with a right-leg wound. METRO

Mega Millions

Northeast lotto ticket hits $5 million

A Mega Millions ticket sold in Northeast Philadelphia hit over the weekend for $5 million, lottery officials said.

The ticket, sold at Pratt Check Cashing on the 1500 block of Pratt Street in Frankford, is from the Jan. 3 drawing.

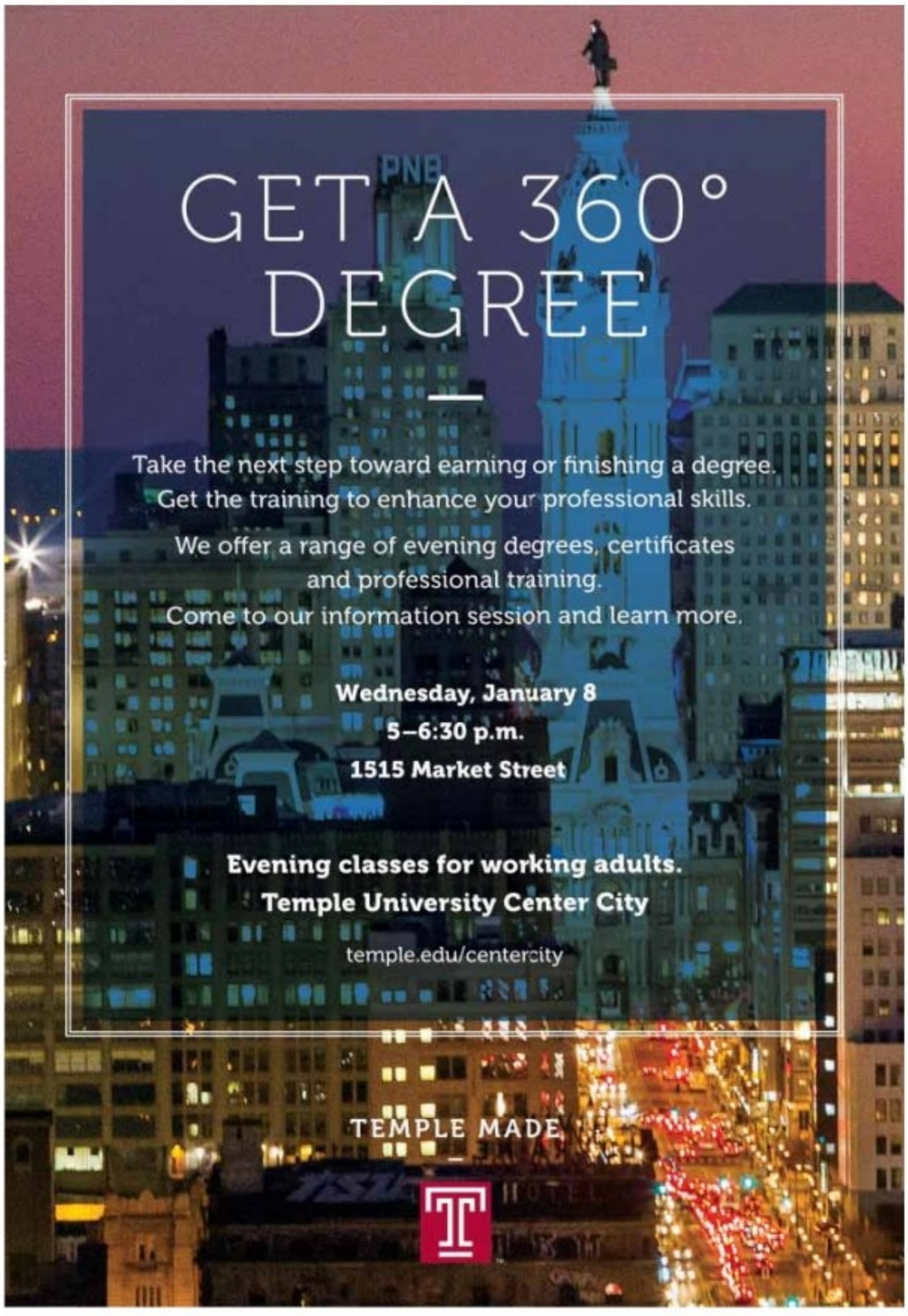
The ticket correctly matched all five white balls — 22-24-25-40-70 — but not the yellow Mega Ball 05.

METRO

Bundle up this week

A pedestrian passes through City Hall on Monday, taking shelter from the variable weather that saw rain, sun and quickly dropping temperatures. The cold air plummeted overnight to subzero temperatures that are expected Tuesday night, too. The high Tuesday will be around 12 degrees.

CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO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Appeal. US Supreme Court halts same-sex marriages in Utah

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday halted gay marriage in Utah at least temporarily by granting a request by state officials appealing a lower court ruling that had allowed same-sex weddings to go ahead in the heavily Mormon state.

The decision by the court means that gay weddings in the state are now on hold while the case is appealed to the Denver-based 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Hundreds of gay couples in Utah have received marriage licenses since the Dec. 20 ruling by U.S. District Judge Robert Shelby.

Shelby declined to stay his ruling pending appeal, meaning gay couples were able to marry in the state immediately. The appeals court also declined to stay the ruling, leaving the U.S. Supreme Court as the state's last recourse. REUTERS

$3.3 billion deal

T-Mobile to buy Verizon Wireless spectrum

T-Mobile is buying wireless airwave licenses from Verizon Wireless to improve its high-speed network in a $3.3 billion deal and said it hopes to follow up with more spectrum purchases.

T-Mobile said it will pay Verizon Wireless $2.365 billion cash and give it $950 million worth of high-frequency spectrum. REUTERS

Arctic chill brings freezing weather to much of nation

Commuters make a sub-zero trek to offices on Monday in Chicago. / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"Cold temperatures and gusty winds associated with an Arctic air mass will continue dangerously cold wind chills as far south as Brownsville, Texas, and central Florida."

National Weather Service

Too cold for class. Oklahoma City and Tulsa schools were closed because of the extreme cold.

A blast of Arctic air gripped the vast middle of the United States on Monday, with the coldest temperatures in two decades threatening lives, forcing business and school closures, and canceling thousands of flights.

Shelters for the homeless were overwhelmed and oil production could come to a standstill as the severe cold, described by some meteorologists as the "polar vortex" and dubbed by the "polar pig" by the media, brought temperatures below 0 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures were 20 to 40 degrees below average in parts of Montana, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan and Nebraska, according to the National Weather Service.

The Arctic air was moving toward the East Coast, where temperatures were expected to fall throughout Monday to about 0 Fahrenheit on Tuesday. The coldest temperatures in years were expected in southern states.

The cold threatened to disrupt oil production, particularly in North Dakota, which could push fuel prices higher, analysts said. It also stalled shipments of grain and livestock, and posed a threat to the dormant winter wheat crop.

The frigid U.S. temperatures mirrored or outdid those in places like Almaty, Kazakhstan, where it was minus 2 degrees F; Mongolia, where temperatures reached minus 10 degrees F, and Irkutsk, in Siberia, where it was minus 24 degrees F. REUTERS

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NCL Norwegian Cruise Line	9-Day Europe	7-Day Alaska	9-Day Caribbean	7-Day Bahamas
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Holland America Line	7-Day Caribbean	7-Day Alaska	10-Day Panama	12-Day Europe
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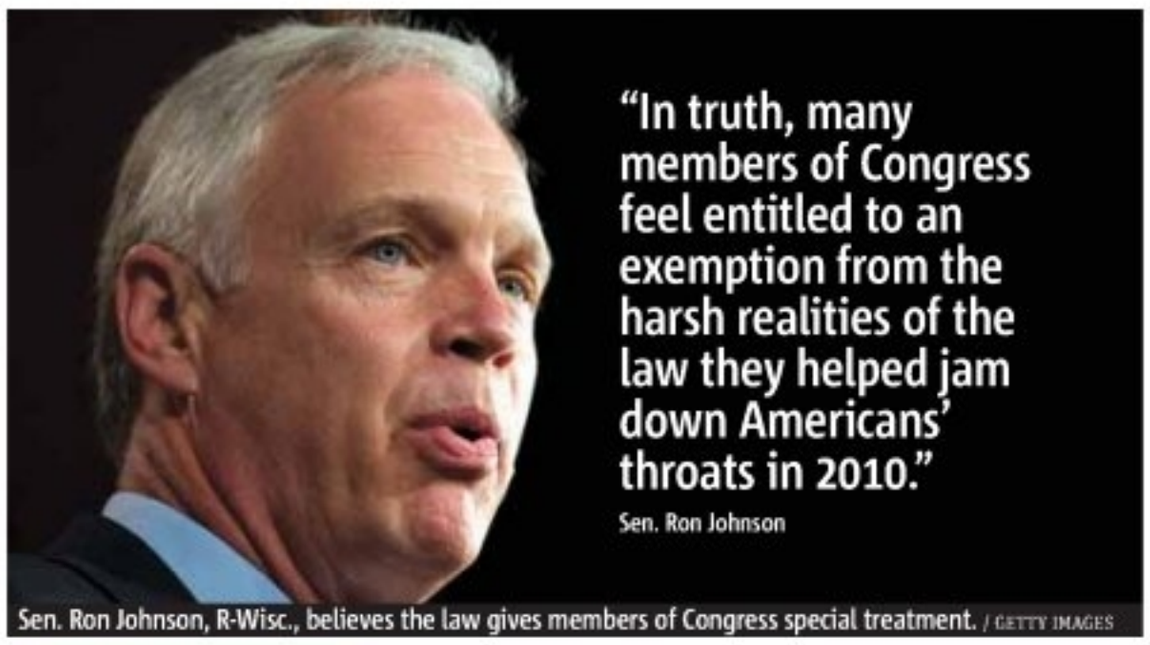
Sen. Ron Johnson sues over health care subsidy for Congress

Obamacare. The law has spawned many other lawsuits.



"In truth, many members of Congress feel entitled to an exemption from the harsh realities of the law they helped jam down Americans' throats in 2010."
Sen. Ron Johnson

Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wisc., believes the law gives members of Congress special treatment. / GETTY IMAGES

Republican Sen. Ron Johnson filed a lawsuit on Monday challenging "special treatment" for members of the U.S. Congress in the application of President Barack Obama's health care law.

Johnson, of Wisconsin, wrote in the Wall Street Journal that the Obama administration exceeded its legal authority by arranging federal subsidies for members of Congress and their staff under the Affordable Care Act, known as Obamacare.

"The president and his congressional supporters have also broken their promise to the American people that Obamacare was going to be so good that they would participate in it just like everyone else," Johnson wrote.

Unlike millions of Americans, he wrote, lawmakers and their staffs can receive employer contributions to help pay for their health insurance.

Healthcare.gov / GETTY IMAGES

Johnson said the lawsuit, to be filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, would challenge an October ruling by the Office of Personnel Management "that ignores the clear intent and language of the law."

Members

535

The ruling applied to the 535 members of the Senate and House of Representatives and thousands of Capitol Hill staff.

Lawmakers and their staffs received an exemption allowing them to be covered under a Small Business Health Options Program, he said. The program allows the employer — the federal government — to buy health insurance for employees.

"After groping for a pretext, OPM essentially declared the federal government a small employer," Johnson wrote. "Neat trick, huh?"

Johnson said the OPM decision forces him and other lawmakers to participate in an activity they believe is illegal.

"It also potentially alienates members of Congress from their constituents, since those constituents are witnessing members of Congress blatantly giving themselves and their staff special treatment," he wrote. REUTERS

Misdemeanor

Man gets eight months in prison for hitting child on plane

A former aerospace executive who slapped a crying toddler on an airplane and used a racial slur against the child, who is black, received an eight-month prison sentence on Monday for an incident his attorney blamed on his alcoholism.

Joe Rickey Hundley, who apologized in court to the child's mother, was accused of striking the 19-month-old boy in the face on board a Delta Air Lines flight from Minneapolis to Atlanta last February.

Hundley pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor assault charge in October. Prosecutors had sought a six-month prison sentence, but the federal judge opted for a stiffer punishment. REUTERS

THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE ON A DELTA AIRLINES FLIGHT
GETTY IMAGES

First woman

Yellen confirmed by Senate vote as next chief of Fed Reserve

Janet Yellen won U.S. Senate confirmation to become the 15th chair of the Federal Reserve and the first woman to head the central bank.

Yellen, 67, was confirmed by a 56-26 vote. She'll replace Ben Bernanke on Jan. 31, as the Fed trims monthly bond purchases in a first step toward lessening the unprecedented stimulus.

Currently Fed vice chair, Yellen has backed Bernanke's efforts to steer the economy through its most severe crisis since the 1930s with record-low interest rates and three rounds of bond buying that have swelled Fed assets to $4.02 trillion.
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JANET YELLEN
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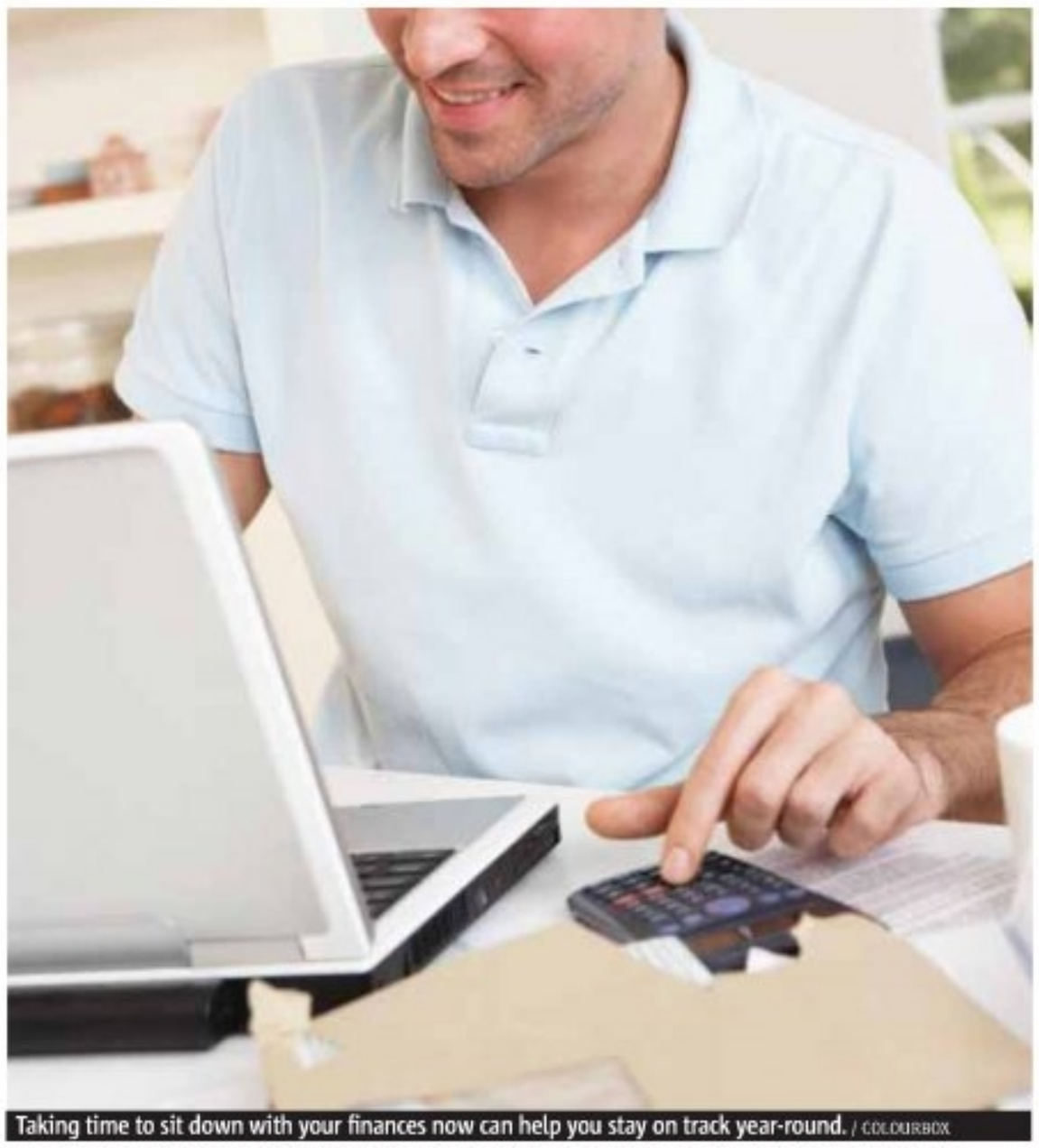
Financial resolutions for the new year

Fresh start. Get your bank account back on track with these helpful tips.



Taking time to sit down with your finances now can help you stay on track year-round. / COLOURBOX

The holidays leave many people financially strapped, but now is the best time to get back on track. No matter what your big goals are for 2014 — buying a house, taking a vacation or just fattening your savings account — the key is to plan. Financial journalist Richard Satran partnered with McGraw-Hill Federal Credit Union to share these tips.

1 Do an inventory. The first step is sitting down and understanding your spending habits. Figure out how much you're making after taxes and what you're spending it on. You might be surprised at what you find out.

2 Start saving more money. After you understand how much you're making and where it's going, then you can figure out what you can cut down on. Can you trade cable for Netflix? Should you make a goal to move to a cheaper neighborhood when your lease is up? It might take some creativity, but there are always ways to save.

3 Set up automatic deductions. Now that you've found a few ways to decrease your spending, set up automatic payments into your savings account. That way you learn to budget around a new baseline. Even if you can only afford to put away $20 more a month than you do now, it's a start. You can always re-evaluate your finances again in a month and make necessary adjustments.

Tip No. 7

Make a list of your long-term goals

Think about what you want for yourself and your family. Do you want to buy a house? Pay for your kids' college? Write down your goals and the amount of money it will take to make these dreams a reality. Then, figure out what it will take to make it happen. Is it starting a house fund savings account and feeding it $100 a month? Figure it out and monitor your progress.

4 Keep your debt manageable. The first step to tackling your debt is to schedule a free credit review and assess your total debt. A lot of people want to pay off their student loans before their credit cards, but it might make more sense to do it the other way around. Credit card companies tend to charge high interest rates; the key is prioritizing the debt that costs you the most.

5 Plan for retirement. Even if you're just starting your career, thinking about retirement should factor into your money plans now and every year. The easiest way to help yourself is by contributing to your company's 401K. There are also private companies you can turn to if your employer doesn't offer a 401K payment plan.

6 Get professional advice. There isn't a one-size-fits-all finance plan that works for everyone. Sitting down with a financial adviser can help you find creative ways to cut costs, help you prioritize debt and learn ways to make your future goals a reality. Together, you could uncover opportunities you might not know you have.

EMILY LAURENCE
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"There was a ton of Googling how to do things the first year," Kaupe says of launching her own business. / PROVIDED

Steps to becoming a millionaire

See more at www.metro.us

Money. ZinePak founder Kim Kaupe shares her tips on how to start a million-dollar business.

Three years ago, 28-year-old Kim Kaupe quit her job to pursue a business idea she brainstormed with her friend and future co-founder. Now, she's the head of the multi-million dollar company ZinePak. Like many people who have a gem of an idea, Kaupe didn't have a business background or any start-up money. Still, she went for it. Kaupe shares her tips so you can pursue your own great idea.

1 Find a hole in the marketplace.
"I worked at Brides magazine for two years and then got a job at an ad agency. One of my co-workers at the agency used to work at Sony Records. We hatched this idea of putting magazines and music together, and out came ZinePak. We wanted to create special packages for fans. It was something that didn't exist before."

2 Partner with someone who has the strengths you lack.
"My business partner and I fit together perfectly because one of us has the strengths that the other person doesn't. Find someone you gel with who shares your views, but also brings a unique perspective."

3 Tell everyone your idea.
"There's this common misconception that when you come up with a great idea, you have to keep

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Bonus tip

If you're not an expert, find the people who are

"Going to meetups was essential for growing our business. There are meetups for everything: small business owner meetups, tech meetups, entrepreneur meetups. ... When I first started out, I thought I was the only person in the world who faced certain problems. But chances are, most other entrepreneurs that you talk to have wanted to throw their QuickBooks out the window, too, and might have a great suggestion that can help you. Whatever you need to learn how to do that you can't Google, there's someone out there who can help you."

Top growing job fields for 2014

Good news for people with a tech background: Information technology jobs are on the rise, according to Fortune magazine. Companies are looking to hire more tech people at rates reaching record highs, especially those with three to five years of experience. Software development is an especially hot career field for 2014, with job listings up 120 percent from 2012.

IT isn't the only growing job field to keep your eye on. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, psychologists, personal care aides, health aides, mechanics and translators are all in-demand jobs right now. People are living longer than ever, and the increase in the eldery population means health and caretaking aides are greatly needed. There is a projected 50 percent increase in demand from 2008 to 2018 in this field.

For jobs with median salaries of more than $70,000, biomedical engineers, financial advisers and medical scientists top the list of the most in-demand jobs. Due to population growth, medical breakthroughs are needed more than ever before.

Whether you are already employed or are graduating college this spring, the new year brings exciting possibilities. EMILY LAURENCE

By the numbers

120%

Percentage increase in job listings for software developers.

it to yourself because someone will steal it. It's really the opposite. If you have an idea, tell everyone you can. You never know who that person might know. Or, they could have a way for you to improve your idea that you haven't thought of. We changed our entire product based on a suggestion a random customer emailed us. It pays to listen — literally."

4 Keep your overhead low.

"The first year, my business partner and I worked from home using only our computers, cell phones and brains. It was just us hustling and cold calling, saying, 'Let us make this awesome product for you.' The less supplies you have to buy, the more money you'll make. Think, do you really need a warehouse or paper printing machine? Chances are there's a company out there who it's cheaper to pay than renting space or buying all the materials yourself."

EMILY LAURENCE
emily.laurence@metro.us

Manage your money

The app that makes staying on a budget easy

If saving money is on your New Year's resolution list but keeping a dreaded spending diary doesn't sound doable, there's an app for that. Level Money, a free app for Android and iPhone, makes staying on track pretty simple.

Like many money management apps, it's connected to your bank account and tracks recurring expenses, like your cable and energy bills. You can also add in other upcoming expenses, plus how much you want to add to your savings account on a regular basis. Then, the app will calculate what you're "allowed" to spend to stay within your means. And, serving as a financial adviser, it will send alerts to keep you on track.

The app's visuals make it easy to see how much money you have left over to spend by the week and by the month. If you're serious about saving money this year, trying out this app is a good first step.

Unlike some finance apps, Level Money keeps things simple. / PROVIDED

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Do more than channel surf on winter break

Sure, reruns and pajamas are pretty great, but using your free time to get ahead will make 2014 even greater. / DIGITAL VISION

Couch commando. There is still time left in winter break to get a head start on the new year.

It's a familiar story — the end of winter break is fast approaching and you're trying to peel yourself off the couch to grudgingly get a head start on studying. With a little bit of planning, you can make the most of that free time before it disappears into thin (freezing) air.

Making a list is often the first step to making things happen. COLOURBOX

Set priorities

Once you've established how much time you have to work with, make a list of things you want to get accomplished in the remaining days of your break. Anything not time-sensitive can go on this list: reading 100 pages for a work-heavy course next term, visiting a beloved local attraction and applying for summer jobs are all good examples.

Creating a list will help you get focused. Do you want to take care of one or two big projects, or fulfill a number of smaller ones? Checking each item off your list will also help you visualize how much you're getting accomplished with the remaining time you have over break.

Manage your friends

After spending time with your family, your friends pose the biggest challenge to staying productive.

Rerun central

Limit your 'me time'

With all the hustle and bustle of the holidays, sometimes you just want some time to watch TV or lie on the couch. There's nothing wrong with relaxing, but don't give in to the temptation to stay home all break long. Here are some signs that you've been taking too much "me time":

1. You leave your bath feeling like a giant prune.
2. Your TV time has turned into a five-hour-long sitcom marathon.
3. You realize you've worn pajamas for an entire week.

If you have regular routines you follow for school, try and stick with them toward the end of break. You'll feel more willing to get work done if you're showered and dressed by 11 a.m. than if you find yourself in bed in the afternoon.

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EDUCATION TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

tive over vacation. While you don't want your relationships to suffer for the sake of textbooks and assignments, you can plan to make your social hours as effective as possible.

Make sure to prioritize friends who are in town temporarily for the holidays. If possible, see friends in large group settings, which will allow you to hang out with several friends at once. If any of the activities on your to-do list could include others, make sure to suggest them — you could accomplish two things at once.

Of course, tips can't make your break productive unless you're serious about getting things done. Gear up with the right attitude and you'll find yourself feeling accomplished and relaxed when you return to the classroom, even while others are dashing through the snow. **SHANNON MANDEL**

Talentegg.com is a job board and online career resource for college students and recent graduates.
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Seeing a group of friends as opposed to each one individually means you can be more productive in your off-hours. / MONKEY BUSINESS IMAGES

LOL, PhD

Who knew scholarly work could be funny?

Submit your own thesis topic at Lolmythesis.com. / STOCKBYE

Blustery, long-winded sentences and impossible-to-define words are usually part of the game when it comes to scholarly work, but one new blog doles out the LOLs along with the academic street cred. At Lolmythesis.com, scholars distill years of painstaking and often obscure work into simple, hilarious punch lines.

A paper on History and the Study of Women and Gender from Smith College becomes, simply: "Basically, Beyonce can do anything" (which, of course, everyone knows is true). And from the psychology department at the University of Denver comes a self-fulfilling prophecy: "I stared at kids playing video games to prove that kids like playing video games."

The project comes from Harvard senior Angela Frankel, whose own area of study is stem cell and regenerative biology. As for her own LOL-ed thesis, it's pretty simple: "I have killed so many fish," she writes. At least she knows that if the stem cell research goes kaput, maybe she'll get a novelty book deal based on her blog so she can count on the big bucks (LOL). **JULIA FURLAN**

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2 CULTURE

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

An open letter to celebrities who can't shut up

Say you are reading this and you are a celebrity/public figure. Let's try an exercise: What do you do if you think of something that maybe isn't the most PC thing in the world? Do you: A. Say it out loud. B. Keep it to yourself. C. Write it in a journal that you then burn, never to see the light of day. If you answered "B" or "C," you have a long future ahead of you in show business. If you answered "A" — we need to talk.

The latest celebrity to fall victim to their own inability to just STFU? Evander Holyfield, who is making a splash with his stay on "Celebrity Big Brother" thanks to an extended rant he recently vented about homosexuality, describing it as "a choice" that "ain't normal" and can be fixed.

"If you were born and your leg were turned this way, what would you do? You go to the doctor and get it fixed back, right?" he said to a fellow housemate. "You know how handicapped people are born? You can't say, 'Because they are born that way, you can't move that.'"

Producers for the series quickly addressed the issue, saying in a statement that they'd relayed to Holyfield that his views "could be seen as extremely offensive to many people. He was warned to think carefully about repeating them."

Good grief. Come on, Evander. You lost an ear. You must know what it feels like to be different. Homosexuality can be "fixed?" Just how many blows to the head did you suffer during your boxing career?

THAT COMMENT WAS NOT EXACTLY A KNOCKOUT.
GETTY IMAGES

Madonna positions herself as a cool mom

Madonna posted the above picture on Instagram of her son Rocco, 13, and several friends ringing in the New Year surrounded by liquor bottles. She captioned it, "The party has just begun! Bring it! 2014," After several hundred perturbed comments on her pic, Madonna posted another photo of young Rocco, this time sans booze. "No one was drinking we were just having fun! Calm down and get a sense of humor! Don't start the year off with judgement!" she wrote.

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John Green's top YA picks

The "Fault in Our Stars" author reveals the five best young adult books he's read lately.

EMILY LAURENCE

No matter what age you are, you're never too old for a good YA book, and author John Green is the king of YA. His books "The Fault in Our Stars" and "Looking for Alaska" are currently topping the New York Times best-seller list, and the movie version of "The Fault in Our Stars" comes out in June. Here are the author's top YA picks:

More 'best books'

See James Dashner's list

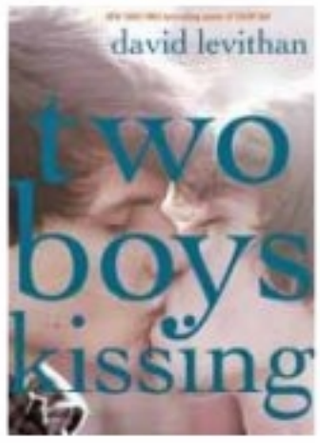
Green wasn't the only young adult author who gave us his top picks. Head to **www.metro.us** to see "The Maze Runner" author James Dashner's favorites of the year.

1 'Eleanor & Park'

by Rainbow Rowell
"This is one of the best love stories I've ever read. It's a sensitive and compelling portrait of poverty and abuse. It's the kind of book you force your friends to read, and all my friends have adored it, too."

2 'Two Boys Kissing'

by David Levithan
"I just finished this book a few days ago. It's a wonderful multigenerational story of love and friendship, centered on two boys trying to break the record for the world's longest kiss."

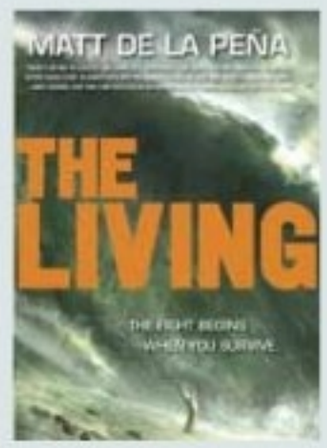


3 'More Than This'

by Patrick Ness
"Books are often described as 'mind-blowing,' but this is one of the few books in which, while reading it, I have exclaimed aloud, 'Oh. My. God.' on multiple occasions. I won't tell you anything else about it. Just read it."

4 'The Coldest Girl In Coldtown'

by Holly Black
"We've all read YA vampire stories, but no one writes like Holly Black: Her worlds are funny and eerily vivid, and Coldtown — a rollicking and decadent ghetto — is one of my favorite fantasy novel settings."



5 'The Living'

by Matt de la Pena
"De la Pena's post-disaster adventure novel is full of action that keeps you turning the pages, but the book is special because of its extraordinary protagonist, Shy, who I haven't been able to shake from my mind in the weeks since I read the book."

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You can also discuss the film on our website in our comments section. Let your opinions be known, start debates, request more information, harangue us for our allegedly terrible taste, and whatever else you'd like to say (but keep it civil.)

Our first offering is "The Act of Killing," one of the major frontrunners

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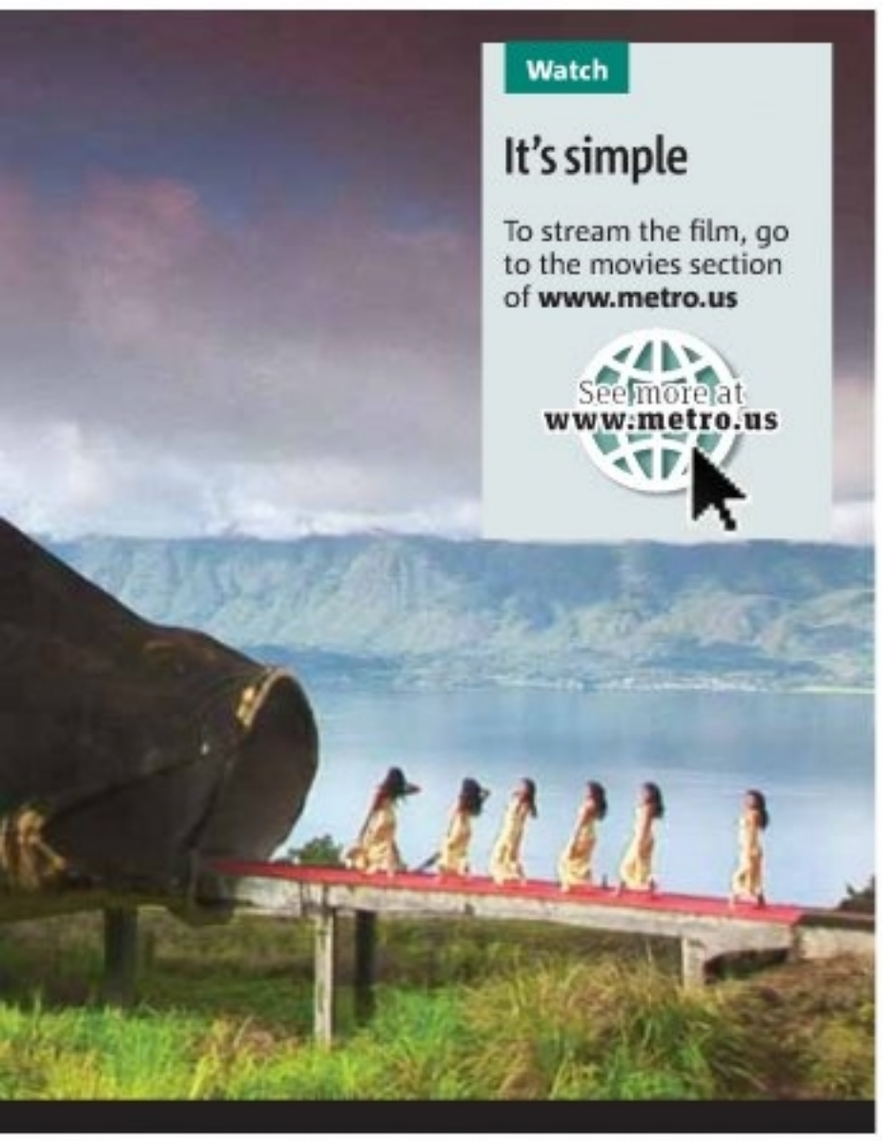

for this year's Best Documentary Oscar and one of the finest non-fiction films of 2013. (This is where you can harangue us if you disagree!)

Made by Austin-born, Denmark-based filmmaker Joshua Oppenheimer, it explores a chilling passage in Indonesian history. During a military coup in the '60s, a group of low-level gangsters were recruited to form death squads. At least 500,000 people deemed Communists were massacred, though some numbers reach above one million.

Despite being charged with human rights violations, the murderers were never tried, and in fact are celebrities, openly boasting about their crimes. Oppenheimer spent years talking to former perpetrators, who uniformly express no remorse, before settling on the group profiled in his film.

That includes Anwar Congo, who became a founding father of the right-wing paramilitary group Pemuda Pancasila. Oppenheimer asked them to recreate their crimes in movie form. Each one chose a genre — the gangster film, the musical, etc. — yielding some of the craziest sights in recent memory.

"The Act of Killing" has proven a worldwide sensation, including at home, where it avoided being outlawed and instead has created a truant conversation about the genocide that has tragically formed the basis of modern Indonesia. It's by turns horrifying, darkly comic and deeply moving, challenging ideas of what to do with evil, particularly criminals who have never been forced to pay for or question their acts.

A streaming rental is $4.99.

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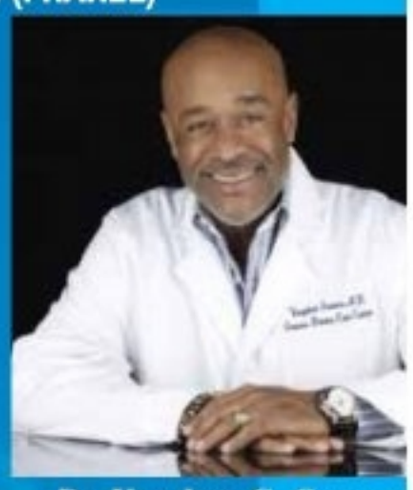

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Compensation included.

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This information is approved by Temple University for public display and is associated with project TIRB#21708
Sharon J Herring, MD, Temple University, The Center for Obesity Research and Education 3223 N. Broad St. Suite 175 Philadelphia PA 19140

PLUS

Off the trail

Shop

Signs for F.M. Light and Sons are dotted along the road into town, and this classic Western store — and longtime Steamboat staple — is perfect for your mountain attire needs. The boot selection alone is worth a visit, if for nothing more than retail admiration.

830 Lincoln Ave., Steamboat Springs 970-879-1822

Champagne powder awaits in Steamboat Springs

Ski. For serious slopes and plenty of fun ways to warm up, head out west to this cozy Colorado escape.

It's a slippery slope: Many who intend only to visit Steamboat Springs end up staying there. / CASSANDRA GARRISON, METRO

Despite its ominous implication, the Yampa Valley Curse — as Steamboat Springs, Colo., locals call it — is generally regarded as more of a blessing. Time and time again, when chatting with those who have made this nook of the Rockies their home, the same story is repeated: It started as a summer job or a winter vacation — and 25 years later, they're still here. After a couple days in this mountain town, it's easy to see why. With its signature champagne powder (snow so fluffy and light, it "fizzes" as your skis cut through it), Steamboat's motto of "Come for the winter, stay for the summer" hardly scratches the surface.

Stay

Guests will feel like mountain royalty at **The Antlers**, a Wyndham Vacation Rentals property. These sprawling luxury townhomes have between three and five bedrooms, a chef's kitchen and ski valet service with heated boot lockers. (Really, is there anything more glorious than warm ski boots?) Three-bedroom rentals start at $417/night and go up to $1,668.

2085 Ski Time Square Drive
Steamboat Springs
970-879-5548

There may be no faster way to the slopes after rolling out of bed than by staying at **Trailhead Lodge**, another Wyndham Vacation Rentals property, which boasts access to the Wildhorse Gondola just steps from the front door. These single-floor units range from studios to three-bedrooms and a den with impressive fireplaces and a grotto-style hot tub. Rates range from $165/night to $676.

1175 Bangtail Way
Steamboat Springs
970-879-9000

Bunny hill

New to the slopes?

For those who are just starting out with snow sports, January happens to be a great time to learn, thanks to Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month, a nonprofit that focuses on expanding skiing and snowboarding and bringing more attention to the resorts the U.S. has to offer. In conjunction with the event, more than 300 resorts have deals on rentals, lessons and lift tickets. Go to skiandsnowboardmonth.org to learn more.

Mountain munching

Eat

We overheard a Steamboat regular raving about **bistro c.v.**, and this cozy restaurant in town lives up to the hype. A warm atmosphere gives way to a seasonal menu that would impress any big-city dweller and a dessert list that will knock those wool socks right off. If the Berkshire pork duo is being offered, order it straight away.

345 Lincoln Ave.,
Steamboat Springs
970-879-4197

Don't miss the pork duo — pork loin and pork belly — at bistro c.v.
CASSANDRA GARRISON, METRO

Cafe Diva at the base of the slopes is the place for surf and turf — Rocky Mountains style. An elk tenderloin is accompanied by diver scallops done to perfection. Wine lovers will be delighted by a lengthy list with a few local surprises.

1855 Ski Time Square Dr.,
Steamboat Springs
970-871-0508

Play

A visit to Steamboat Springs isn't complete without a trip to the natural hot springs at **Strawberry Park**. With several pools offering varying degrees of hot and cold water, an entire afternoon can easily slip away lazing in the springs before scampering back to the warming hut to get dressed. Clothing is optional after dark.

44200 County Road 36
Steamboat Springs
970-879-0342

CASSANDRA GARRISON
cassandra.garrison@metro.us

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When it comes to beauty, Alexa Chung is a minimalist

Primp. It's hard to find the "routine" in Alexa Chung's beauty routine. When the cameras are off, the fashion darling leaves her makeup at home and prefers to go natural — even on first dates.

Like you, Alexa Chung is too lazy to wear makeup on the weekends and forgets her razor when she travels. We chatted with the fashion icon about her beauty rituals at the launch of Alexa for Eyeko, her new collaboration with the U.K. cosmetics brand.

What's your daily beauty routine?

It's very minimal. I'm lucky because I'm usually on TV so someone does my makeup for me. But for the weekends, I really don't wear much makeup; I just put moisturizer on. I like Laura Mercier.

How do you protect your skin in the winter?

Oh, man, it's rough. I've been using Cetaphil; it's like a medicinal moisturizer for your body but it is just so plain. I use a vitamin E oil and mix them together to make a richer cream.

Do you bring your makeup with you so you can reapply on the go?

No. I'm no maintenance throughout the day. I would rather look like s— and not worry about it than constantly be reapplying. I would like to look nice all the time, but I just can't be bothered.

When she does wear makeup, Alexa Chung nails the cateye look thanks to these Eyeko products. / PROVIDED

What do you listen to when you're putting on your makeup?

I listen to Solange, Lorde and Drake a lot. I also like George Harrison and Beach House.

How do you manage your routine on the road?

I always forget a razor and a toothbrush. It's insane. I have the bodywash/shampoo things decantered into smaller things, so that's just ready to go whenever. And then moisturizer — it's very, very important for the flight to have it on you. I'd go so far as to say a hydrating mist but I don't ever take it with me. Sometimes I get photographed at the airport, so lately I've been taking a red lipstick so I can feel a little more glamorous.

What are your favorite products for date night?

Oh, God, I hate dates. I tend to do this thing, which is a weird quirk I have: If I really like someone and go on a date with him, I rebel and I wear dungarees and no makeup. I want to think, if they like me looking like this, then they are going to really like me when I turn it up.

Be yourself

On sex appeal

I really, truly believe that it's about feeling confident. I don't think you should ever walk in heels you can't maneuver in or, like, wear seven pairs of Spanx or a padded bra. Because what if you were pinched into this bandage dress and [later your boyfriend] finds out that you like wearing Sonic Youth T-shirts and jeans? They are going to be like, "But when I dated you, you were hot." So I like to be pretty up-front about it.

MAJA LUNDAGER
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EDUCATION TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

Winter family night ideas

Snowy night in. Discover five fun family ideas you can do at home.

If queuing up a movie has become your default family night activity, it's time to shake things up. Here's a list of fun ideas you can do without dealing with the freezing weather outside.

Family time doesn't have to feel forced. / COLOURBOX

Set up a homemade hot chocolate bar

Give your cup of Swiss Miss an upgrade by going all out. Use milk, cocoa powder, sugar and a pinch of salt to brew a batch of hot cocoa on the stove and put bowls of various toppings out on the table. Some ideas: crushed chocolate mint Oreos, caramel crumbles, mini marshmallows, colorful sprinkles and of course whipped cream. Sipping your warm drinks together will give your family a chance to simply talk and hang out. If your family is too busy during the week to share meals together, this time will feel extra meaningful.

Get competitive

If the board games you have seem a bit tired, try Shake Up, which Real Simple magazine deemed "the new Sorry." In this dice-rolling game, players try to be the first to get their pawns through the "safe zone holes." Each round only takes about 15 minutes, allowing time for multiple games — and winners.

Fill a photo album together

Instead of relying on Facebook to hold all your family memories, create some actual, physical albums. Before family night, visit FotoFriend.com to get your Facebook pics printed, as well as other pictures you are relying on your phone or computer to store. They'll be shipped straight to your house. Take your kids along on the shopping trip to help pick out the albums. Then, you're ready to get started. Your family will have a great time laughing together and reliving special memories. And at the end of the night, you'll have a priceless keepsake.

Write letters to extended family members

Grandparents or a favorite aunt will love getting an unexpected surprise in the mail, written by you and your kids. Helping your children think of their recent accomplishments will make them feel proud. It's also the perfect time to tell your favorite family stories, making your kids feel valued and happy to be a part of the fam.

Developing life skills

Learn something new together

Whether it's getting everyone in the kitchen to cook a new dish, building a model, painting a birdhouse or learning a new foreign language through a video series together, everyone will get something out of this family night idea. If you choose to go the cooking route, give your child ownership of a task, like getting all the ingredients from the fridge if you have a young child or making a side dish if your kid is older. Helping to make the meal gives everyone a feeling of accomplishment that makes the food that much yummier.

EMILY LAURENCE
emily.laurence@metro.us

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Horoscope

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Focus on your home and make changes that ease your stress and add to your comfort.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. Make innovative moves that will ensure your financial and emotional freedom. Setting a goal and focusing on your destination will prove a sure strategy for happiness.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Lend a helping hand, and you will make new contacts and win support for your own goals. Opportunity is knocking.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Don't let opposition stand between you and what you think is right. Choose your words wisely, and don't mince them.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Keep your eyes open. There will be plenty of obscure movements that could go unnoticed if you aren't observant.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. You need to go where the action is, and don't be afraid to get physical. Participate, but don't expect everything to fall into place.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Avoid letting a critic put pressure on you. Concentrate on the activities that you feel most comfortable doing, or on a hobby.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Make a personal change that will give you something to look forward to. Improve your appeal or fix up a space to help hone your domestic skills.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. A positive attitude and a plan will lead to satisfaction. Love is on the rise, so plan something special for someone.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Stay calm and be realistic. You mustn't feel threatened or pressured into doing something. Avoid taking on too much.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Let your concerns be known. Schedule meetings or an activity that will bring you knowledge.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Make changes at home that will help you feel better about your future. A move to a location that offers greater opportunities should be considered.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	6	9						
		8	4	9				5
	5					3	9	
	3	7		6	5	4		8
				7				
9		1	2	4		7	5	
	9	4					8	
6				3	4	1		
						5	6	

	7	8	5					1
		3		9				4
	5				3			8
7			9	8		5		
			6		5			
		5		4	7			6
5			1				7	
6				5		3		
3					4	6	8	

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Don't let Iran talks fool us

The threatening behavior of Iran is a vital issue for the United States. For many years the government of Iran spewed hatred while moving toward development of nuclear weapons. President Obama claims this is intolerable and unacceptable. As a result of the agreement reached between the six major powers and Iran, the progress of the Iranian government has been slowed, but not eliminated or even reversed. Considering that the development of nuclear weapons by other nations went undetected by the entire American intelligence community, I have concerns about these issues.

ARTHUR LEE HORN, VIA EMAIL

North Korea can have her

I wish Janet Napolitano would keep her mouth shut and disappear permanently from our lives. This monster made our air travel a nightmare because of TSA tyranny. Edward Snowden did what was necessary to show us what the government is really up to. This may force the judge to declare surveillance illegal, but most of us already believe it is violating the Constitution. Although I am not a violent person, I would like to send Napolitano to North Korea.

MANANA CHKADUA, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Online

You can use your smartphone to discover today's crossword answers — right now! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle — it's that easy!

Interactive Crossword

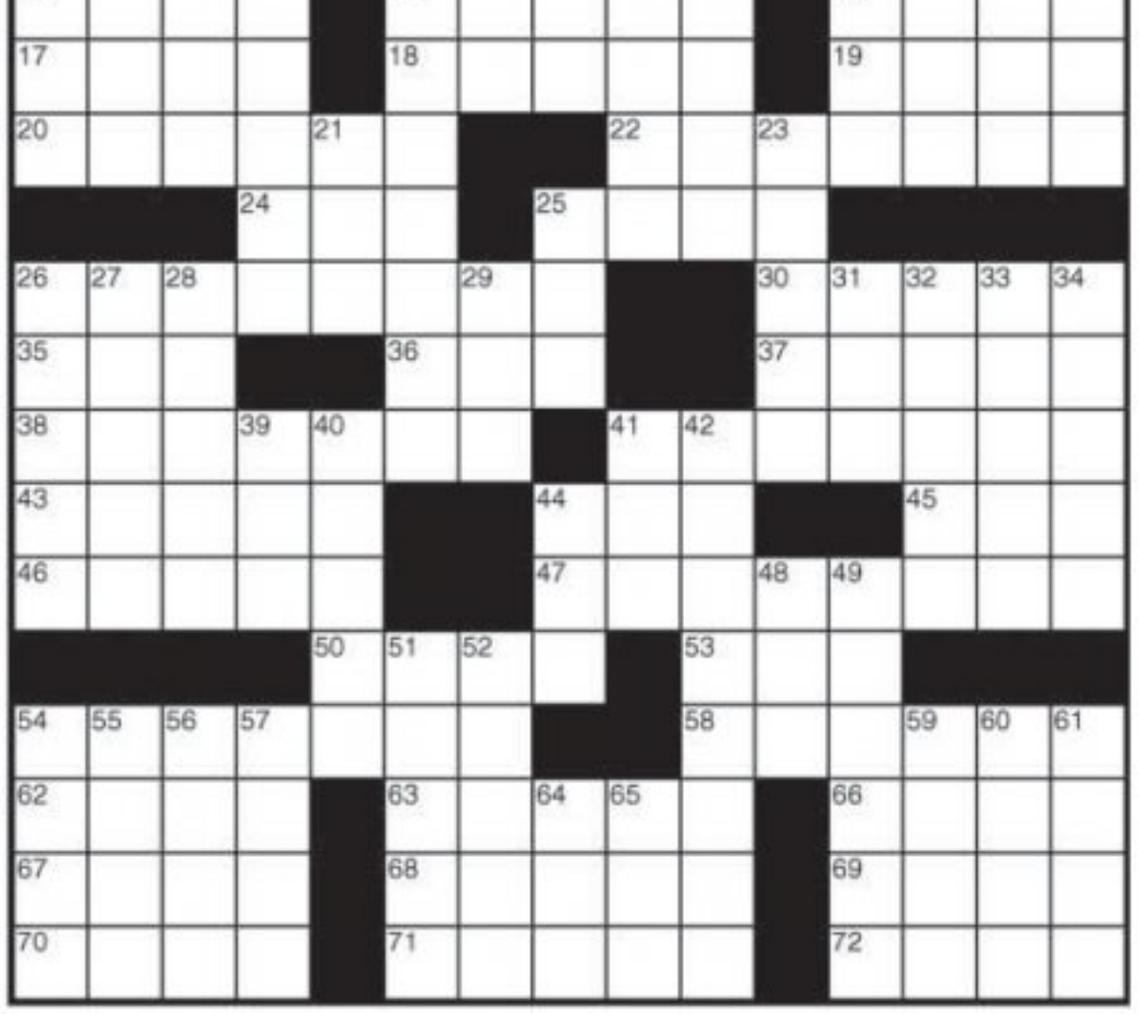
Crossword

Across

1 Wall climber
5 Twilights
10 Char a steak
14 Promissory notes
15 Pizza topping
16 Gigi's friend
17 Tizzy
18 Ralph— Emerson
19 Tease mercilessly
20 Aft
22 Was in store for
24 — Dawn Chong
25 "The — the limit"!
26 Seems likely (2 wds.)
30 401(k) kin
35 Top-notch pilot
36 Depot (abbr.)
37 Quiz-show host
38 Sailing event
41 Weight-watcher
43 Related to mom
44 Shout "Stroke!"
45 Not waste
46 Choir platform
47 Short-circuits a car (hyph.)
50 Plant parasite
53 Electrical unit
54 Counselor
58 Rodeo event
62 Spooky sound
63 Dalai Lama's land
66 Fermi split it
67 Bonze or friar
68 Overhead
69 — -majeste
70 Refiner's input
71 Followed a pattern
72 Word from the pews

Down

1 Passport companion
2 Smoke-detector output
3 A night in Paris
4 Organic compounds
5 Maine, colloquially (2 wds.)
6 Ms. Merkel
7 — vous plait
8 Brownie maker
9 Like ski slopes
10 Rani's wear
11 Shed, as light
12 — -de-camp
13 Cattail
21 U.K. fliers
23 Requested
25 Tijuana "Mrs."
26 Less cluttered
27 Boadicea's people
28 Painter of ballerinas
29 Make — — double
31 Grounded bird
32 Take place
33 Vee makers
34 Toast starter
39 Wolfed
40 Contract provisos
41 Milne marsupial
42 Blackmailed
44 Ernesto Guevara
48 Famous first baseman
49 Veld antelope
51 Jots
52 Mohawk, e.g.
54 BBs
55 Easy way out
56 Barn topper
57 Calligraphy fluids
59 Object
60 Scent finder
61 Feds (hyph.)
64 Salaam
65 Morn's counterpart



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Young is restless

Young is Eastern Conference Player of the Week

After leading the Sixers to three wins and averaging about 25 points and eight rebounds, Thaddeus Young became the second 76er (Michael Carter-Williams) to earn the Eastern Conference Player of the Week distinction this season.

EAGLES HAVE STABILITY, WINNING WAYS WITH KELLY

The end of a thrilling season came not with the angst usually associated with failure for the Eagles, but with the simple truth that they were not good enough, at least not yet. A better team with better players beat them. It happens.

In fact, it is a testament to the 2013 Eagles that — despite being dominated on both sides of the ball — they were undone Saturday night by a field goal on the final play, providing New Orleans with a 26-24 win that was much closer than it should have been.

For Eagles fans, the loss was surprisingly painless, given the stakes in the contest and the attachment they had developed for new coach Chip Kelly's overachieving players. This time, there was no one moment that defined the defeat, no curious coaching decision or controversial officiating call. The Saints outgained the Eagles, 434-256. They deserved to win.

Philadelphia sports fans are not known for their big-picture mentality, but even they can see just how far the Eagles came in Kelly's inaugural season.

Where the future appeared so grim just last year, now it looks as promising as it was in the heyday of Andy Reid's tenure a decade ago.

Head coach Chip Kelly led the Eagles to a quick turnaround. He also has a young and talented core of returning players. / GETTY IMAGES

For example, there's Kelly himself, a coach who needed only half a season to figure out how to take a dubious roster and win seven of the last nine games. Kelly introduced a brand-new offense that was both exciting and productive, provided some sports-science initiatives that kept his team healthy and won over the city with his candor and his wit.

The search for a starting quarterback ended this season, too. Nick Foles is smart and accurate and a developing leader, the almost perfect complement to Kelly's cerebral style. True, Foles runs like a nose tackle, but his quarterback rating was a team-record 119 — better than the best in the NFL this season.

With LeSean McCoy and DeSean Jackson already flourishing in Kelly's system, they will only get better next season, as will rookies Zach Ertz and Lane Johnson. Once Kelly finds some key defensive pieces to prevent the kind of domination they endured against New Orleans — especially some play-making safeties — the pieces will be in place for a real Super Bowl run.

The biggest accomplishment in Kelly's amazing first season is not that he replaced Andy Reid, but that he overcame a roster in disarray and a culture of cluelessness and somehow managed to capture the NFC East. Winning 10 games with Patrick Chung and Damaris Johnson and Isaac Sopoaga and Alex Henery was more than a great coaching job; it was a miracle.

Philadelphia shed no tears when the season ended late Saturday night because there was no reason for dejection. Thanks to Kelly, the future's so bright, we gotta wear shades.

The Voice of Philly Sports

ANGELO CATALDI

Cataldi has optimism

Where the future appeared so grim just last year, now it looks as promising as it was in the heyday of Andy Reid's tenure a decade ago.

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Cataldi. Bill O'Brien leaves Penn State mostly unchanged

Bill O'Brien led PSU to two winning seasons. / GETTY IMAGES

Two years after one of the worst scandals in sports history, nothing much has changed in Happy Valley. Joe Paterno is still in control of a community that cares more about football success than horrific behavior. Jerry Sandusky molested boys for years, and Joe Paterno enabled him. Those are facts that no misplaced hero worship will ever alter.

And yet, Penn State remains in denial. Bill O'Brien left the school last week to coach the Houston Texans after failing to change a culture corrupted by the 47 years of Paterno's reign. O'Brien accomplished more on the football field than anyone could have hoped, but the coach came to realize that he could never overcome the blind stupidity of the Paterno zealots.

Weeks before his departure, O'Brien said this to PennLive.com. "I don't really give a (damn) what the 'Paterno people' think about what I do with this program. I've done everything I can to show respect to Coach Paterno. ... It makes me want to put my fist through this windshield right now."

O'Brien worked under impossible conditions at Penn State, and not just because of the strict NCAA sanctions placed on the program. The worst part is the attitude of the alumni, the boosters and the longtime residents there. Even now, most of these devotees worship Paterno. Of course, none of them were victims of Sandusky's depravity.

When Paterno was removed from his job — and his pedestal — two years ago, it was an opportunity for the late coach's countless admirers to deal with the reality of the situation. Paterno was just another football coach more interested in his own success than in using his power to prevent the horrors happening right in front of him. Unfortunately, they have ignored that lesson.

O'Brien was smart to escape the epidemic of shameful denial still gripping Happy Valley.

ANGELO CATALDI

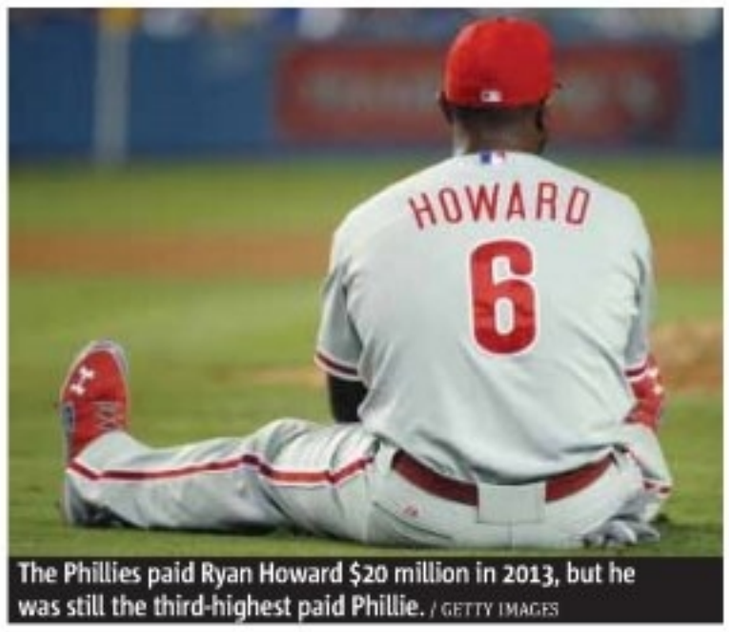
Idle thoughts

Here are a few other things eating at Angelo Cataldi this week.

- Is there anyone left who thinks Andy Reid is a great NFL coach? Not only did his Kansas City Chiefs blow a 28-point lead in their playoff game, he totally bungled the final moments with his typical time-management issues. Reid is an OK coach – until required to think on the sidelines. Then he's Rich Kotite.
- Life has not been kind to Joe Banner since he left the Eagles to run the Cleveland Browns. First, he lost the coaching sweepstakes for Chip Kelly, then his Browns tanked and now he has fired coach Rob Chudzinski after one year. Is it time yet to say Banner was overrated here?
- How great a football city is Philadelphia? The only team hosting a playoff game last weekend that did not struggle to sell out was the Eagles. And the biggest local rating in NBC's Sunday Night Football history happened in the Dallas-Eagles regular-season finale, when 58 percent of our TVs were tuned to the game. Bravo.
- Now that Claude Giroux is playing like a superstar again, someone needs to remind the Flyer captain that great players don't have an on-off switch. How could someone this talented go cold so often? Giroux needs to show up to play every game, not just when the mood suits him.

Cataldi on the Phillies

$2.5 billion only helps Phillies if spent wisely


The Phillies paid Ryan Howard $20 million in 2013, but he was still the third-highest paid Phillie. / GETTY IMAGES

No one received a bigger gift over the holidays than the Phillies, who agreed to a new TV deal with Comcast worth — ready for this? — $2.5 billion. The team's annual income from local television will soon skyrocket from $35 million a year to $100 million.

It is now official. The Phils have come a long way since that infamous day in the 1980s when former president Bill Giles called them a "small-market team." They rank among the richest now, right there with the Yankees and Dodgers.

There's only one problem with this incredible new windfall, and it is the man — or men — entrusted with spending it. Other than covering up more colossal mistakes like the Ryan Howard or Jonathan Papelbon deals, what good will it do if the money continues to be squandered?

Here's an even better question: Why should anyone have faith that GM Ruben Amaro Jr. will make better use of the new cash? And if president Dave Montgomery really believes that the terrible recent roster moves were a team effort, then why should we trust any of them?

Montgomery went out of his way last weekend to credit the support of the fans for this major new influx of revenue. Their purchase of increasingly more expensive tickets and their interest in following the team on TV led to this bonanza.

Now it's time for the Phillies to return the favor. Now that they have all the money they will ever need, they have to find somebody who will spend it wisely. That person is not Amaro Jr.

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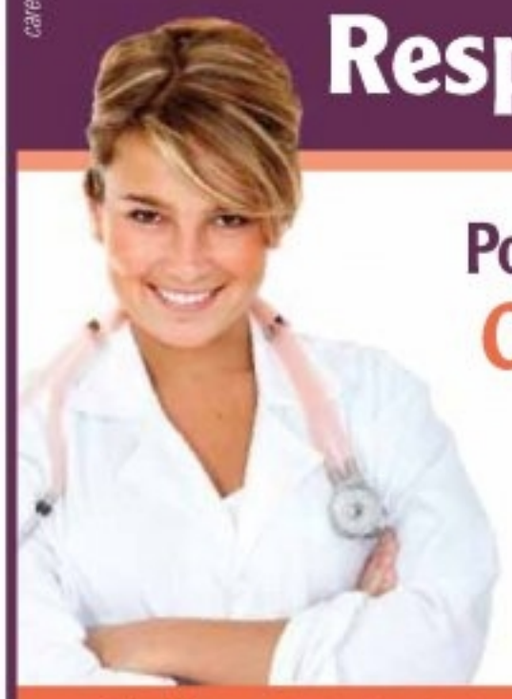
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Jackson wants raise after best career season

NFL. The Eagles' leading receiver tells the media he deserves more money next year.

DeSean Jackson set several personal bests in 2013.
GETTY IMAGES

We haven't heard much from DeSean Jackson this season.

But the outspoken Eagles receiver never stays quiet for long. The 27-year-old playmaker made his case for a higher salary in front of reporters Monday.

"I'm proven in this league," Jackson told the press Monday. "After this past year, [I] went out there, no distractions, and just really put it all in for my team and went out there and had a lot of success, so we'll see how it goes."

Jackson is scheduled to make $10.5 million next season (including incentives) after making $7 million in 2013.

He set personal bests in all categories this past season, collecting 82 receptions for 1,332 yards receiving, ninth in the NFL.

His nine touchdown grabs matched the nine he caught in 2009.

Jackson could be thinking big bucks, with Calvin Johnson's massive $132 million, seven-year deal from 2012 setting a high bar for top receivers.

Johnson only outgained Jackson by 160 yards, though he did catch three more touchdowns.

But the $10.5 million is still more than the $5 million Johnson will make in his backloaded deal.

Chip Kelly, wrapping up the season with a press conference Monday, wasn't thrilled with his first opportunity to discuss Jackson's contract.

"I don't talk about contracts," the coach said. "I'm never going to have a discussion over it."

But with Jackson coming off of a stellar season, you can be sure the powers that be in the Eagles' front office will be making sure their star receiver is on the field come 2014.

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More money

4

Even without a raise, DeSean Jackson will be the fourth highest-paid wide receiver in the NFL next season, behind Mike Wallace, Larry Fitzgerald and Percy Harvin.

Quarterback confidence

Chip Kelly committed to Nick Foles at QB

The Eagles have found their franchise quarterback in Nick Foles, and Chip Kelly couldn't be more proud of his performance in 2013.

"He's a great decision maker," Kelly told reporters Monday. "I think he's extremely accurate where he puts the ball. I think he's very young, and I think people still sometimes forget about that. He didn't become our starter until after Mike [Vick] went down in the Giants game, and he's still — in the short body of work he did, I think he did an outstanding job."

Foles set a franchise record in quarterback rating and tied an NFL record with seven touchdowns against the Raiders earlier this season.

Kelly had his own way of agreeing that after such a productive year, Foles deserves the title of "franchise quarterback."

"I said it before, if the Eagles are a franchise, which we are, then Nick is our quarterback," Kelly said Monday.

Foles threw for 27 touchdowns in 13 games this season with just two interceptions, the best ratio posted ever by an NFL quarterback. EVAN MACY

International Flyers

Voracek, Streit named to Olympic squads

Two key members of this year's Flyers squad will join the highly anticipated ice hockey competition in Sochi February: Jakub Voracek and Mark Streit.

Defenseman Streit will play for Switzerland on his fourth Olympic squad, while this year's second leading scorer, Voracek, will make his first appearance playing for the Czech Republic.

Team Canada will be announced Tuesday. METRO

Best of the Eagles awards for 2013

GETTY IMAGES

MVP: LeSean McCoy

You can make a case for Nick Foles, but we're giving it to Shady. How many times did you jump off the couch and just shout, "Wow. He may go down as the greatest back in Eagles history."

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Offensive POY: Nick Foles

Again, easily interchangeable with LeSean McCoy. We'll give this one to Foles since the offense seemed to click at unfathomable levels when he took the reins.

GETTY IMAGES

Defensive POY: Trent Cole

It took him eight weeks to adjust to the 3-4, but when he did, he devoured it like a fat kid eating cake. Cole had seven sacks in his last eight games, while proving to be excellent in coverage.

GETTY IMAGES

Most Improved: Nate Allen

No one went from doghouse to established starter faster than Allen. He turned out to be the most efficient tackler on the defense and a big boost to the secondary.

- **Rookie of the Year: Zach Ertz** — The rookie tight end overcame an early case of the dropsies and showed he is going to be a dangerous weapon in a system that values two tight-end sets.

- **Best Free Agent Acquisition: Connor Barwin** — The former Texan owned the "Jack" linebacker role. He played corner, defensive end, inside backer and outside backer — all to perfection.

- **Mr. Eagle Award: Jason Kelce** — On the field, Kelce is a pulling center and he makes all the protection calls. Off it, he's the guy the media gravitates toward to get the pulse of the team. **MIKE GREGER**

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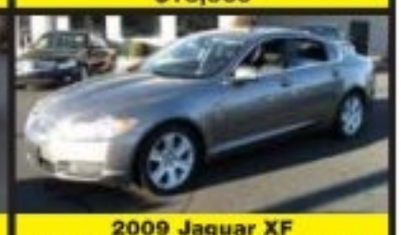

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